



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

John F. Kennedy
National Historic Site

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John F. Kennedy NHS News Release

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John F. Kennedy Birthplace Welcomes Visitors during the Democratic National Convention

President John F. Kennedy's birthplace at 83 Beals Street in Brookline promises to be a nostalgic destination for delegates and visitors in town for the Democratic National Convention. Visitors are welcome to tour the simple frame house filled with history and memory throughout the convention week July 24-August 1 from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. For details and directions, call (617)566-7937 or visit www.nps.gov/jofi.

More than a million people from around the world have made a pilgrimage to the John F. Kennedy National Historic Site since it opened to the public in 1969. Visitors get a glimpse of the first home shared by the president's father and mother, Joseph P. and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, including the bedroom where JFK was born on May 29, 1917. On display are household furnishings, photographs, and significant mementos personally collected by Rose Kennedy in an effort to create a memorial to her son following his assassination in 1963. A taped narrative in Mrs. Kennedy's own words provides a unique and evocative addition to the Ranger-guided tour, recalling the beginnings of one of America's most prominent families. "We were very happy here," remembers Mrs. Kennedy, "and although we did not know about the days ahead, we were enthusiastic and optimistic about the future."

President Kennedy's story culminated with his inauguration in 1961, but it began in the house where he was born and the community where he lived and served. Nearby are many of the sites that influenced Kennedy's life and ideals: Saint Aidan's Roman Catholic Church and the Edward Devotion School in Brookline where he worshipped and studied as young boy, Harvard University in Cambridge where he earned his college degree, Boston's North End where he won his first election to the U. S. Congress, the Massachusetts State House where he rallied support for his U. S. Senate race, and Faneuil Hall where he announced his candidacy for president.

To learn more, contact the John F. Kennedy National Historic Site, 83 Beals Street, Brookline, MA (617)566-7937 or visit www.nps.gov/jofi.